

enclosing the open upper end thereof;

a tamper evident cap cooperatively engaged to the sealing cap and including a selectively fracturable parting region which, when fractured, allows at least a portion of the tamper evident cap to be separated and removed from the sealing cap; and

a closure retaining section coupled to the sealing cap and advanceable over the shoulder of the container upon the attachment of the sealing cap to the neck thereof;

the parting region being formed within the tamper evident enclosure such that the fracture of the parting region occurs as a result of the engagement of the closure retaining section to the shoulder upon the movement of the sealing cap away from the shoulder subsequent to the attachment of the sealing cap to the neck .

636. (Amended) A tamper evident closure for a container having an externally threaded neck defining an open upper end and an annual shoulder extending about the neck in close proximity to the open upper end thereof, the tamper evident closure comprising:

an internally threaded sealing cap threadably engageable to the neck in a manner enclosing the open upper end thereof, the threadable engagement of the sealing cap to the neck being facilitated by the rotation of the sealing cap in a first direction;

a tamper evident cap cooperatively engaged to the sealing cap in a manner wherein the rotation of the sealing cap facilitates the rotation of the tamper evident cap, the tamper evident cap including a selectively fracturable parting region which, when fractured, allows at least a portion of the tamper evident cap to be separated and removed from the sealing cap; and

12 a closure retaining section coupled to the sealing cap and advanceable over the shoulder of the container upon the threadable engagement of the sealing cap to the neck thereof;

the parting region being formed within the tamper evident closure such that the fracture of the parting region occurs as a result of the engagement of the closure retaining section to the shoulder upon the rotation of the sealing cap in a second direction opposite the first direction subsequent to the threadable engagement of the sealing cap to the neck .

11 13. (Amended) A tamper evident closure for a container having a neck defining an open upper end and at least one annular shoulder extending about the neck in close proximity to the open upper end thereof, the tamper evident enclosure comprising;

13 a sealing cap attachable to the neck in a manner enclosing the open upper end thereof;

a tamper evident cap cooperatively engaged to the sealing cap and including a selectively fracturable parting region

which, when fractured, allows at least a portion of the tamper evident cap to be separated and removed from the sealing cap; and

3 a closure retaining section coupled to the sealing cap and advanceable over the shoulder of the container upon the attachment of the sealing cap to the neck thereof;

the parting region being formed within the tamper evident closure such that the fracture of the parting region occurs as a result of the movement of the sealing cap relative to the container subsequent to the attachment of the sealing cap to the neck.

13. (Amended) A tamper evident closure for a container having an externally threaded neck defining an open upper end and at least one annular shoulder extending about the neck in close proximity to the open upper end thereof, the tamper evident closure comprising:

4 an internally threaded sealing cap threadably engageable to the neck in a manner enclosing the open upper end thereof, the threadable engagement of the sealing cap to the neck being facilitated by the rotation of the sealing cap in a first direction;

a tamper evident cap cooperatively engaged to the sealing cap in a manner wherein the rotation of the sealing cap facilitates the rotation of the tamper evident cap, the tamper evident cap including a selectively fracturable parting region

which, when fractured, allows at least a portion of the tamper evident cap to be separated and removed from the sealing cap; and

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a closure retaining section coupled to the sealing cap and advanceable over the shoulder of the container upon the threadable engagement of the sealing cap to the neck thereof;

the parting region being formed within the tamper evident closure such that the fracture of the parting region occurs as a result of the rotation of the sealing cap in at least one of the first direction and a second direction opposite the first direction subsequent to the threadable engagement of the sealing cap to the neck.

Please add the following new claims in the prosecution:

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49. (New) A tamper evident closure for a container having a neck defining an open upper end and at least one annular shoulder extending about the neck in close proximity to the open upper end thereof, the tamper evident enclosure comprising:

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a sealing cap attachable to the neck in a manner enclosing the open upper end thereof;

a tamper evident cap cooperatively engaged to the sealing cap and including a selectively fracturable parting region which, when fractured, allows at least a portion of the tamper evident cap to be separated and removed from the sealing cap;

and

a closure retaining section coupled to the sealing cap and advanceable over the shoulder of the container upon the attachment of the sealing cap to the neck thereof;

the parting region being formed within the tamper evident closure such that the fracture of the parting region occurs as a result of the application of torque to the tamper evident closure subsequent to the attachment of the sealing cap to the neck.

16 50. (New) The tamper evident closure of Claim ~~49~~ ¹¹⁵ wherein the tamper evident cap is cooperatively engaged to the sealing cap via interengaging serrations which are formed on the tamper evident cap and the sealing cap.

17 51. (New) A tamper evident closure for a container having an externally threaded neck defining an open upper end and at least one annular shoulder extending about the neck in close proximity to the open upper end thereof, the tamper evident closure comprising:

an internally threaded sealing cap threadably engageable to the neck in a manner enclosing the open upper end thereof, the threadable engagement of the sealing cap to the neck being facilitated by the rotation of the sealing cap in a first direction;

a tamper evident cap cooperatively engaged to the sealing cap in a manner wherein the rotation of the sealing cap